provided in step (a), in the presence of two or more kinds of nucleotide analogs;

wherein at least one nucleotide analog is incorporated in the amplifying step in place of dGTP or dCTP, and at least one nucleotide analog is incorporated in the amplifying step in place of dATP or dTTP.

18. The method according to claim 17, wherein amplification of the desired DNA is carried out by polymerase chain reaction.

19. The method according to claim 17, wherein at least one of the nucleotide analogs is selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dGTP, 7-Deaza-dATP, dITP and hydroxymethyl dUTP.

20. A method for amplifying a DNA, comprising the steps of

(a) preparing a cDNA comprising at least one nucleotide analog by a reverse transcription reaction in the presence of the at least one nucleotide analog using an RNA as a template; and

(b) amplifying a desired DNA from the cDNA obtained in the above step (a), in the presence of two or more kinds of nucleotide analogs, wherein at least one nucleotide analog is incorporated in the amplifying step in place of dGTP or dCTP and

at least one nucleotide analog is incorporated in the amplifying step in place of dATP or dTTP.

21. The method according to claim 20, wherein the amplification of the desired DNA is carried out by a polymerase chain reaction.

22. The method according to claim 20, wherein at least one of the nucleotide analogs is selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dGTP, 7-Deaza-dATP, dITP and hydroxymethyl dUTP.

23. A method for amplifying a DNA, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a template DNA comprising a nucleotide analog; and

(b) amplifying a desired DNA from the template DNA of step (a) in the presence of the following substances (i) to(iii):

(i) at least one nucleotide analog to be incorporated in the amplifying step in place of dGTP or dCTP,

(ii) at least one nucleotide analog to be incorporated in the amplifying step in place of dATP or dTTP, and

(iii) a compound for lowering the Tm value of a double-stranded nucleic acid.

24. The method according to claim 23, wherein the amplification of the desired DNA is carried out by a polymerase chain reaction.

25. The method according to claim 23, wherein at least one of the nucleotide analogs is selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dGTP, 7-Deaza-dATP, dITP and hydroxymethyl dUTP.

26. The method according to claim 23, wherein said compound for lowering the Tm value of a double-stranded nucleic acid is selected from the group consisting of formamide, dimethyl sulfoxide and trimethyl glycine.

27. A method for amplifying a DNA comprising the steps of;

(a) preparing a cDNA by a reverse transcription reaction in the presence of at least one nucleotide analog using RNA as a template; and

(b) amplifying a desired DNA from the cDNA of the above step (a) in the presence of the following substances (i) to (iii):

(i) at least one nucleotide analog to be incorporated in the amplifying step in place of dGTP or dCTP,

(ii) at least one nucleotide analog to be incorporated in the amplifying step in place of dATP or dTTP, and

(iii) a compound for lowering the Tm value of a double - stranded nucleic acid.

28. The method according to claim 27, wherein the amplification of the desired DNA is carried out by a polymerase chain reaction.

29. The method according to claim 27, wherein at least one of the nucleotide analogs is selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dGTP, 7-Deaza-dATP, dITP and hydroxymethyl dUTP.

30. The method according to claim 27, wherein said compound for lowering the Tm value of a double-stranded nucleic acid is selected from the group consisting of formamide, dimethyl sulfoxide and trimethyl glycine.

31. A kit for amplifying a DNA in the presence of a nucleotide analog by the use of a DNA fragment comprising at least one nucleotide analog as a template, comprising two or more nucleotide analogs, wherein the two or more nucleotide analogs are:

(i) at least one nucleotide analog to be incorporated in place of dGTP or dCTP, and

(ii) at least one nucleotide analog to be incorporated in place of dATP or dTTP.

32. The kit according to claim 31, wherein the kit further comprises a reagent for synthesizing in the presence of nucleotide analogs a cDNA that is complementary to an RNA.

33. The kit according to claim 31, wherein the two or more kinds of nucleotide analogs are selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dGTP, 7-Deaza-dATP, dITP and hydroxymethyl dUTP.

34. A kit for amplifying a DNA in the presence of at least one nucleotide analog by the use of a template DNA fragment comprising nucleotide analogs, comprising two or more nucleotide analogs and a compound for lowering the Tm value of a double-stranded nucleic acid,

wherein the two or more nucleotide analogs are:

(i) at least one nucleotide analog to be incorporated in place of dGTP or dCTP, and

(ii) at least one nucleotide analog to be incorporated in place of dATP or dTTP.

35. The kit according to claim 34, wherein the kit further comprises a reagent for synthesizing in the presence of nucleotide analogs a cDNA which is complementary to an RNA.

36. The kit according to claim 34, wherein the two or more kinds of nucleotide analogs are selected from the group consisting of 7-Deaza-dGTP, 7-Deaza-dATP, dITP and hydroxymethyl dUTP.

37. The kit according to claim 34, wherein the compound for lowering Tm value of a double-stranded nucleic acid is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of formamide, dimethyl sulfoxide and trimethyl glycine.--

REMARKS

The Office Action of May 31, 2000 presents the examination of claims 1-16. The present paper cancels claims 1-16, without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof. New claims 17-37, directed to the same subject matter, are presented for examination. This method of amendment was chosen for its simplicity.